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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 04495 211540Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10 /104 W
----------028527 211607Z /44
P R 211426Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6815
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN
AMEBMASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, ELAB, IS
SUBJECT: LABOR'S INTERNATIONAL TIES AND THE LIKUD GOVERNMENT

1. OFFICIALS OF BOTH THE LABOR PARTY AND THE HISTADRUT ARE EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT THE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE CREATED BY THE LIKUD VICTORY AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S HARD LINE STATEMENTS ON NEGOTIATING TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS AS WELL AS HIS HARD LINE ANTI-SOCIALIST ATTACKS IN THE HISTADRUT CAMPAIGN (SEE TEL AVIV 4450) WILL AFFECT THEIR SPECIAL TIES TO FRATERNAL PARTIES AND TRADE UNIONS, THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL AND ICFTU. THEY POINT WITH PRIDE TO
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04495 211540Z

THE FACT THAT DESPITE THE RUPTURE BY MOST OF THE "THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES" OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AFTER 1967, THE LABOR PARTY AND THE HISTADRUT WERE ABLE TO MAINTAIN CONTACTS AND EVEN A PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN MANY OF THESE COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS OF ESTABLISHED FRATERNAL AND IDEOLOGICAL TIES.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

2. NOW, HOWEVER, THE SHOCK PROVOKED BY BEGIN'S DE-
FIANT PRONOUNCEMENTS ON TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS IS
REVIVING A STRONG ANTI-ISRAELI REACTION AND FEARS OF
A NEW MIDDLE EASTWAR, WHICH IS ALSO AFFECTING ISRAEL'S
TRADITIONAL FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS. EVEN THOUGH THE
LABOR PARTY'S DEFEAT WOULD HAVE IN ANY CASE CONTRIBUTED
TO AN EROSION OF THE PARTY'S AND HISTADRUT'S SPECIAL
INTERNATIONAL FRATERNAL TIES, THE LIKUD'S RENUNCIATION
OF THE LABOR PARTY'S FOREIGN POLICY PLATFORM IS BOUND
TO ACCELERATE THIS PROCESS. ARAB AND HOSTILE LEFT
WING FORCES CAN BE EXPECTED TO REINFORCE THESE ANTI-
ISRAELI REACTIONS AMONG SOCIALIST AND TRADE UNION GROUPS.

3. ISRAEL GAT, DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR PARTY INTERNATIONAL
DEPARTMENT, COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT PORTUGAL WOULD
ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE THE ESTABLISH-
MENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH A NON-SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT.
MOREOVER, THE SOLICITUDE SHOWN THE ISRAELI LABOR PARTY
BY KEY EUROPEAN SOCIALIST LEADERS DURING THE ELECTION
CAMPAIGN HAD GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TOWARD STRENGTHENING
ISRAEL'S DIPLOMACY. SUCH SUPPORT WILL NOW BECOME
CONSIERABLY MORE QUALIFIED.

4. AVRAHAM ALLON OF THE HISTADRUT INTERNATIONAL
DEPARTMENT COMMENTED ALONG A SIMILAR VEIN, POINTING
OUT THAT HISTADRUT'S TIES, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA WHERE
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HISTADRUT ENTERPRISES REMAIN QUITE ACTIVE, ARE BOUND
TO SUFFER. HE THEN CITED, AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE NEW
OPPOSITION TO ISRAEL, RECENT INCIDENTS INITALY WHERE
ARAB
FXKLGXWOQVHY
CBP APTS TO BAR HISTADRUT REPRESENTATIVE ELIEZER
HALEVI FROM ATTENDING AND ADDRESSING THE CGIL AND THE
CISL LABOR CONGRESSES. HE ALSO ATTRIBUTED THE DEFIANT
ARAB MILITANCY AT THE ILO CONFERENCE IN LARGE PART TO
THE NEGATIVE INTERNATIONAL IMPACT OF THE LIKUD LEADER-
SHIP. ALLON EVEN EXPRESSED FEAR THAT THE NEW GOVERN-
MENT COULD ERODE THE AFL-CIO SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL.

5. THE LIKUD, IN TURN, IS TRYING TO BELITTLE THE VALUE
WHICH THE LABOR PARTY AND THE HISTADRUT ATTRIBUTED TO THEIR
FRATERNAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. IN HIS ADDRESSES TO A LIKUD
RALLY ON JUNE 18 AND IN HIS JUNE 20 INAUGURAL ADDRESS
BEFORE THE KNESSET BEGIN QUESTIONED HOW HELPFUL THESE
CONTACTS HAD BEEN IN MARSHALLING SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL
AND ATTACKED LABOR FOR ENCOURAGING FRATERNAL PARTIES
AND MOVEMENTS TO ATTACK AND CRITICIZE HIM AND HIS
GOVERNMENT FOR ITS FOREIGN POLICY. HE ASSERTED THAT SUCH CRITICISM

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

WAS
ONLY AN INVITATION TO PROVOKE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES ON ISRAEL.
AFTER ALL, THE ROGERS PLAN HAD BEEN REVIVED (PROBABLY
A REFERENCE TO THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT STATEMENTS)
UNDER A LABOR GOVERNMENT. THUS, LABOR SHOULD NOW GIVE
LIKUD A FAIR CHANCE AND MUTE ITS CRITICISM UNTIL IT
SEES HOW THE NEW LEADERSHIP CONDUCTS FOREIGN POLICY.
DUNNIGAN

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-0491
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770633/aaaabdgg.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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